

5th 2007 East Asia Telecom Union Forum Discusses on Labor Law and Restructure of the Telecom Industry



2007 East Asia Telecom Union Forum is held by CTWU in Taipei, Taiwan. Brothers and Sisters from NWJ, KTTU, UNI APRO, PEACH, PCCW, Cable and Wireless Staff Association and APTG Workers' Union attended the forum and exchanged the current situations and challenges in East Asia. At the end of the forum, Presidents of NWJ, KTTU and CTWU signed a joint statement to pledge to cooperate each other and promote the strategic alliance.



Group Picture of delegations in East Asia Telecom Union Forum

In the era of globalization, the national boundary has been wiped off and telecom unions in East Asia faced the similar problems. By the occasion of the forum, unions gather together to seek for the resolutions. After stepping into the five year, East Asia Telecom Union Forum expands its scale and to involve more discussing partners. Henry Lam, Chairman of REACH, PCCW, Cable and Wireless Staff Association and Bruce Lee, President of APTG Workers' Union were invited under this circumstance. They are happy to have the chance to contribute their effort and sharing.



NWJ Executive President Morishima NWJ report

NWJ pointed out the concerns of “New Plan for Competitiveness Enhancement 2010”, which was announced by the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications of Japan, This Plan proposed the limitations for the next generation Internet, which may reinforce the restrictions targeted against the NTT. **NWJ** is taking appropriate actions to fight for their rights based on the “Fundamental Policies of Information Communication in the Broadband Era”. Also, **NWJ** will keep on taking care of the issue of non-regular workers in NTT Group and try to organize those workers.



Reported by Mr. Choi Kwang Soo

KTTU President Ji

KTTU is against the government’s regulation to maintain basic operation in public service areas. This new law seriously impacts the strike right and also betrays international standard. **KTTU** also concerns about the issue of increasing number of non-regular workers. **KTTU** insists that the employment of full-time workers must be created and part-time workers should only be allowed with

absolutely necessary.

Otherwise, unions in Korea are continuing to fight against the unequal trade treatment between the United States and South Korea.



CTWU President Chang

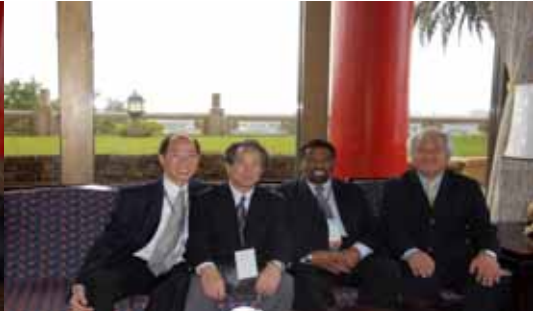
Similar amendments of the labor regulation happened in Taiwan. The executive Yuan of Taiwan has revised the Trade Union Law and now includes the telecommunication industry in the range of “restricted strike”. **CTWU** objects to this policy.

By learning from the model of NTT Group, Chunghwa Telecom Co. is working on restructure of the company by setting up subsidiary companies and new service divisions. The restructure of the company caused the membership decreasing to CTWU. Also, workers who were transferred to the subsidiary company had no longer been protected from union.

To confront this problem, CTWU is now coordinating Taiwan IT Confederation Union, which unites unions in the communication industry. In the future, workers can be protected under this big umbrella.



2007 East Asia Telecom Union Forum Joint Statement



5th 2007 East Asia Telecom Union Forum Attendants:

UNI APRO



Mohamed Shafie
BP Mammal
UNI APRO
Telecom President



Kun Wardana Abyoto
UNI APRO
Telecom Director



NWJ



Shoji Morishima
Executive President



Masanori Hirata
Central Executive
Committee Member



Masashi Takahashi
Director of Politics



Natasuhiko Suzuki
Staff
Department of negotiation
and policy making



Fumiko Kimura
International Secretary



Tomomi Hisose
Executive Committee
Member,
NWJ East HQ



KTTU



Ji Jae Sik
President



Park Jae Woo
Director of 1st Editing
Department



Choi Kwang Soo
Chief of Planning
and Strategy Bureau



Coy Sung Yi
International Affairs



CTWU



Chang Hsu-chung
President



Kao Mei-hsiung
Managing Director



Ciou Chuang-neng
Managing Supervisor



Chu Chuan-bing
Managing Director



Juang Bing-tang
General Secretary



REACH, PCCW, Cable and Wireless Staff Association



Henry Lam
Chairman



APTG Workers' Union



Bruce Lee
President



2007 East Asia Telecom Union Forum

Joint Announcement

NWJ, KTTU, and CTWU attend the 2007 East Asia Telecom Union Forum in Taipei, Taiwan, on Oct.3rd, 2007, and give the following joint announcement:

In the “New Plan for Competitiveness Enhancement 2010,” the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications of Japan has proposed the limitations for the next-generation Internet, which may reinforce the restrictions targeted against the NTT Group but also create a profound impact for future management. Treating this with a sense of crisis, the concerned Telecom Union of Japan is taking appropriate actions to

fight for their rights based on the “Fundamental Policies of Information Communication in the Broadband Era” in order to ensure the fair principles for competition that fit the IP broadband era.

Moreover, in order to actualize “NTT’s Mid-stage Management Strategy,” the application of the next-generation Internet-based e-commerce on business operation, HR development, and HR protection is purposed at providing a fully webnized society that provide convenience and confidence for users and citizens.

As for those who receive hourly pay and the contract workers in the NTT Group, the organization for these employees who are not yet in an organization should be provided and expanded. Telecom Union of Japan will define the meaning of the existence of “labor organizations” and follow-through on this matter.

Telecom Union of Korea believes that the government’s regulation of requiring the needed public welfare entities to maintain a minimum amount of business operations is causing problems for the employer-employee relationship that is under self-governance as well as hindering communication. ILO believes that except for the needed services that are carefully defined, it is not appropriate for a government to intervene the dispute-settlement process. A government that ignores advices from an international organization can be viewed as in violation with the fundamental labor rights that are sanctioned by the Constitution. Therefore, KT Labor Union is demanding an immediate amendment.

Addressing the issue of part-time labors, Telecom Union of Korea believes that it is important to slow down their increasing rate. As a result, the principles regarding the employment of full-time employees must be created and part-time employees should only be allowed when it is absolutely necessary.

Telecom Union of Korea is concerned that under the disguise of “protecting the consumers,” the communication restriction, ROD-MAP, implemented by the government is not only unable to enhance the service quality but increases the market cost, resulting in the weakening of the telecommunication industry. The government should not promote competitions but rather “quality enhancement” and provide investment policies to attract businesses.

The authority governing over Taiwan’s telecommunication industry, NCC (National

Communications Commission), was declared by the grand justice of violating the Constitution in the process of selecting its commissioners. All of the commissioners will resign in December, and because Chunghwa Telecom owns more than 97% of the market share of the fixed network, the new commissioners of NCC will have decisive impacts on the future of the company. In order to protect the company's management rights and the employees' job security, Chunghwa Telecom Workers' Union will continue to fight the NCC for fair and reasonable treatments.

The Executive Yuan of Taiwan has revised the Trade Union Law and now includes the telecommunication industry in the range of "restricted strike," and this is a clear violation of the regulations of ILO and the "Labors' Three Rights." Chunghwa Telecom Workers' Union objects to the policy of restricted strike, and as for the regulations on HR dispatch, Chunghwa Telecom Workers' Union believes that there is no need for the Taiwanese government to formulate additional regulations since a revision on the existing Labor Standards Law and regulations regarding contracts that have fixed or non-fixed schedules will be sufficient.

By learning from the model of Japanese telecommunication companies for creating subdivisions, Chunghwa Telecom is actively reforming its sub-organizations. The responses from Chunghwa Telecom Workers' Union is targeted at the goal of creating a chief IT union in Taiwan that combines different groups and individuals (including contract workers) and fights for their rights.

The reason why this forum is going to be held is to promote the information exchange between the telecommunication unions in Taiwan, Japan, and Korea and promote strategic alliance. In the future, the forum will reach other telecommunication unions in Asia in order to contribute more for the telecommunication labors in Asia in the 21st Century.

NWJ Executive President Shoji Morishima

KTTU President Ji Jae Sik

CTWU President Chang Hsu-chung

Oct., 3rd, 2007

