



Visions of the Information Society

Fostering Globally Accessible and Affordable ICTs

by

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Global Information Society

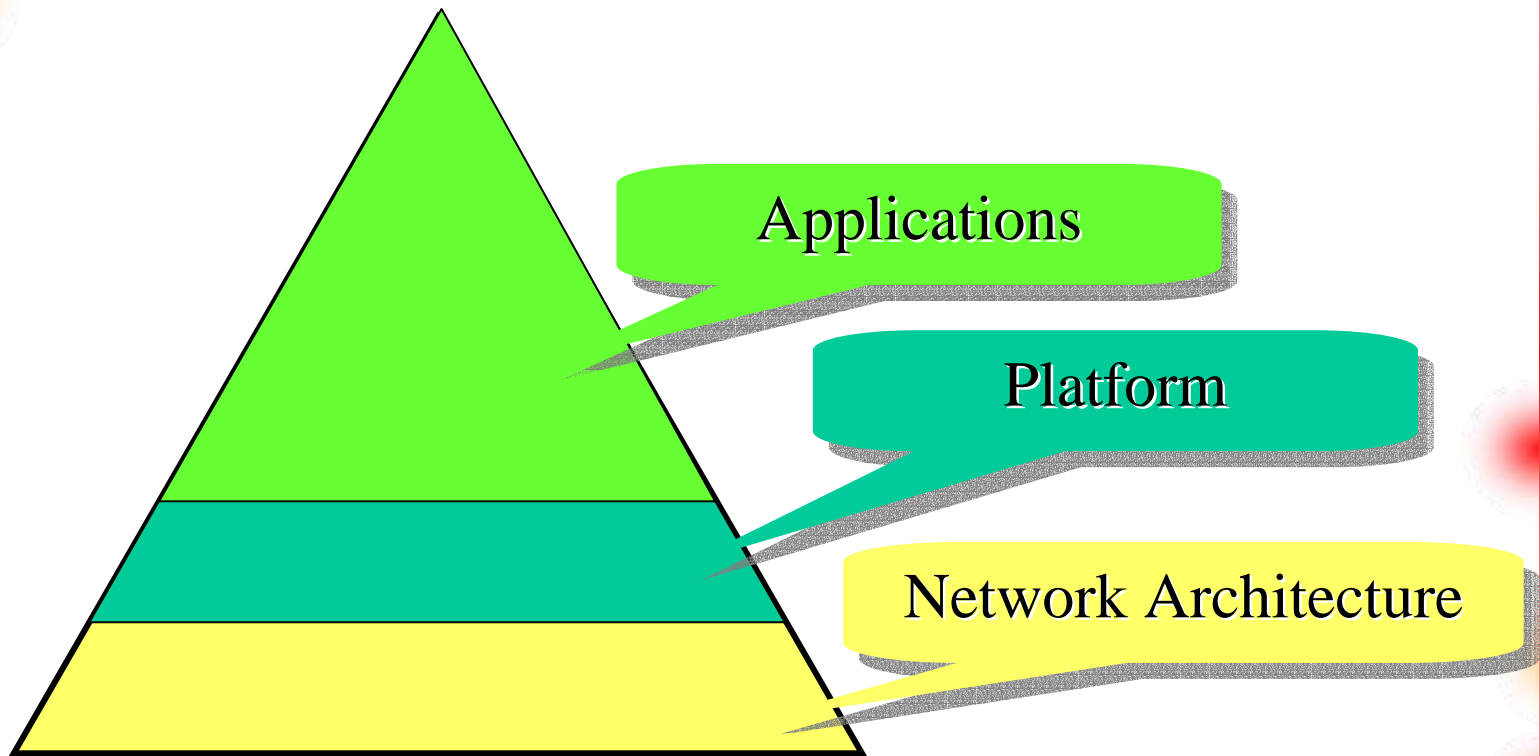
■ Technology

- From ICT Revolution to Ubiquitous Communications
- Transmission Speed from Megabits, Gigabits to Googabits per Second

■ A Great Migration toward the Digital Continent



Network Social Infrastructure





Architecture

Accessibility

- Choice of technology
- ✓ Wired
- ✓ Wireless
- ✓ Keitai (mobile)
- Investment

Affordability

- Government subsidy
- Regulated tariff
- Facility-based competition
- Universal service fund



Platform

Accessibility

- Development
- Standards
- Security, privacy, decency
- Harmonization of tax, settlement, regulation, intellectual property

Affordability

- Nexus technology
- Nexus institution
- “lock-in” effect avoided



Applications

Accessibility

- Computer literacy
- Deregulation
- Cultural impediments
- Cyber society convention

Affordability

- Competitive industry
- Fair-use copyright



Increasing Accessibility

- Evolving Notion of Universal Service
 - Physical connectivity
 - Active participation
- Digital Empowerment
 - Transfer of property rights, A revolution
 - Economic, political and social inclusion



Increasing Accessibility

- Competition or Regulated Monopoly?
 - Facility-based competition
 - Auctioning frequency band
 - Regulation on access charge
- Viable Infrastructure Development
 - Marginal cost pricing and stranded cost,
Price cap or structural separation



Increasing Accessibility

- Global universal service fund proposed
 - Expand the basic concept of universal service fund in US and Japan
 - Affordable accessibility
 - Platform standards
 - Information literacy



Affordability

■ Choice of Infrastructure

- Wired technology
- Wireless infrastructure

■ Pricing Strategy for Fast Penetration

- Internet subsidy
- Strategic introduction price, or predatory pricing



Affordability

- Government subsidy and WTO principle
 - Cost incentive, subsidy on investment and R&D
 - Flying geese or leap-frog
 - Infants that grow too fast
- Affordability for Whom ?
 - 20% of population; a rule of thumb
 - Make room for those who refuse to ride on



Governance of GIS

■ Cyber Space Convention

- Platform, copyright, security, tax, global currency, decency, privacy

■ Conformity and Diversity

- Physical and cyber world
- Diverse paths to future
- Efficiency, equity and sustainability



Policy Agenda for GIS

- Global Universal Service Fund
- Geneva Convention for GIS
- Cyber Security Council

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For more discussion, please see

Toshihiko Hayashi, “Fostering globally accessible and affordable ICTs”, International Telecommunication Union, 2003. Downloadable from the web site <http://www.itu.int/osg/spu/visions/global/paper4.html>

Thank you.