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• **ABU**

ASIA-PACIFIC BROADCASTING UNION
- Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

World Broadcasting Unions – Technical Committee (WBU-TC)

For Immediate Release
June 3, 2004

• **AIR**

ASOCIACION INTERNACIONAL DE
RADIODIFUSION
- Montevideo, Uruguay

**WORLD BROADCASTING UNIONS TECHNICAL COMMITTEE (WBU-TC)
EXPRESSES EXTREME CONCERN ABOUT LICENSING OF MPEG-4 AVC**

The World Broadcasting Unions Technical Committee (WBU-TC) is the collective technical body for the world's eight broadcasting unions. It reflects the opinions of the world's national broadcasters.

• **ASBU**

ARAB STATES BROADCASTING UNION
- Tunis, Tunisia

In a press release dated 21 May 2003, the WBU-TC commented on the licensing arrangements for MPEG-4 Visual and, in particular, strongly objected to the concept of fees based on usage. The WBU-TC also expressed the hope that the licensing structure for MPEG-4 AVC would not be a barrier to massive global adoption.

• **CBU**

CARIBBEAN BROADCASTING UNION
- St. Michael, Barbados

On 17 November 2003, MPEG LA issued a News Release entitled "MPEG LA Announces Terms of Joint H.264/MPEG-4 AVC Patent License" (http://www.mpegla.com/news/n_03-11-17_avc.html) which indicated that free-to-air broadcasters would be required to pay "Participation Fees" amounting to US \$10,000 per year for markets of greater than 100,000 households. On 18 May 2004, MPEG LA announced (http://www.mpegla.com/news/n_04-05-18_avc.pdf) that the terms of this license will be modified to include the option of paying a one-time fee of US \$2,500 for each encoder used in transmitting MPEG-4 AVC video for free broadcast television.

• **EBU**

EUROPEAN BROADCASTING UNION
- Geneva, Switzerland

Despite this concession, the WBU-TC has unanimously concluded that the MPEG-4 AVC licensing terms remain extremely onerous for free-to-air broadcasters. The WBU-TC suggests that free-to-air broadcasters should be exempted from charges for use of MPEG-4 AVC. In the absence of such an exemption, the WBU-TC may recommend that the world's major broadcasters should not use MPEG-4 AVC.

• **NABA**

NORTH AMERICAN
BROADCASTERS ASSOCIATION
- Toronto, Canada

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• **URTNA**

UNION DES RADIODIFFUSIONS ET
TELEVISIONS NATIONALES D'AFRIQUE
- Dakar, Senegal