

Seizo Onoe

Japan

Elected Director of the
ITU Telecommunication
Standardization Bureau

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Seizo Onoe received 93 votes, with 181 Member States present and voting and with a required majority of 90.

Seizo Onoe's priorities for ITU standardization work

"ITU standardization needs to contribute to people's lives and society, where it leads to social and economic development," says Seizo Onoe during a video interview at the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference (PP-22) in Bucharest.

While recognizing the key role of ITU's Standardization Sector (ITU-T) in making information and communication technologies (ICTs) and telecommunication systems interoperable worldwide, Onoe says "the dissemination and implementation of standards are even more important."

Onoe, newly elected as the next Director of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Bureau (TSB) highlights the importance of cooperation between ITU and the technology industry.

In his new role as TSB Director, Onoe – sometimes described as the "father of LTE" (Long-Term Evolution, a wireless broadband standard for mobile devices and data terminals) – intends to prioritize global outreach for technical standards to connect the 2.7 billion people in today's world who still lack Internet access.



For more insights, watch the full [video](#) interview.



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This can be achieved through a new collaboration framework, he says, adding: "We need industry to implement standards."

According to Onoe, the involvement of the telecom and technology industry in shaping and implementing key standards can serve to spread the benefits of new technologies and help achieve the Sustainable Development Goals set by the United Nations.

"More involvement from industry will help with the dissemination of new technologies," he says. "Telecom standards only become meaningful when they are widely spread."

As ITU's next standardization chief, he aims to create a "sustainable standards cycle" in which "economies of scale and the competition principle lead to cost reduction, making services and products affordable."

Seizo Onoe outlines a vision of an inclusive, sustainable society founded on reliable networks. Achieving this vision will hinge on the spread of technology standards for meaningful and affordable broadband connections all over the world.

Organizational management will be another key priority for the incoming director, who emphasizes the need for open and inclusive, efficient and effective, transparent management to fulfil ITU's crucial standardization role.

The "Onoe commitment", as he describes it, means establishing:

- An **open and inclusive programme** to enhance standardization processes and programmes for digital technologies to address global issues.
- A **new ecosystem** that is responsive to technology evolution and strengthens cooperation and collaboration in telecommunication standardization inside and outside ITU.
- **Global outreach** to bridge standardization gaps, speedily deliver the benefits of technology, and ensure meaningful and affordable broadband access for everyone.
- **Efficient and effective management** of resources to effectively achieve outcomes in a transparent manner.

Career path | Seizo Onoe

For the past year, Seizo Onoe has been Chief Standardization Strategy Officer of Japan's NTT Corporation and a Fellow of NTT DOCOMO. Previously, he was President of DOCOMO Technology and Chief Technology Architect of NTT DOCOMO, Japan's leading mobile phone operator and largest telecommunications company.

Between 2012 and 2017, he served as NTT DOCOMO's Chief Technology Officer and Executive Vice President, a Member of the Board of Directors, and Managing Director of the Research and Development (R&D) Center, which became the company's R&D Innovation Division.

Earlier, he had served as Senior Vice President and Managing Director of NTT DOCOMO's R&D Strategy Department and Managing Director of the company's Radio Network Development Department.

Onoe first joined NTT Public Corporation in 1982 and was transferred to NTT DOCOMO when the mobile operator was established in 1992.